

LOCAL I-S NEWS

for department store workers

Vol. 3, NO. 8

264

DECEMBER 1, 1951

CIO CONVENTION BACKS STORE ORGANIZING DRIVE

Japanese Pay Visit To I-S, Macy's Store

Six Japanese women, representing a large and influential trade union of that country, accompanied by two Japanese-American guides and interpreters joined Macy's with Local I-S President Sam Kovenetsky, Vice President Elizabeth Hammond and representatives of management for a guided tour through Macy's.

The delegates, in this country guests of the Department of Labor, represent the women of the Department Store, Textile and Telephone industry.

As trade union leaders and organizers, the highlight of their visit was a meeting with the company's personnel chief, Fred Fischel. They showed special interest in the contract won by Local I-S. The tour included a brief orientation by John McGrath, head of the company's executive and training section, a visit to the hospital, the telephone order board, the advertising department and other points of interest in the store.

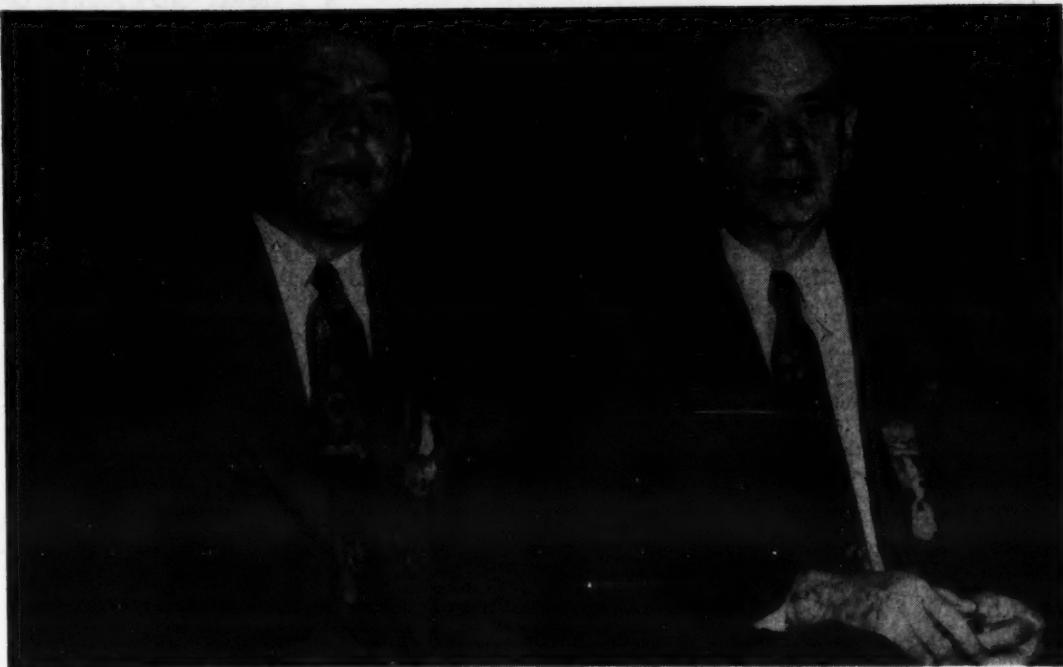
The delegation consisted of Miss Masako Ogawa, Mrs. Michiko Watanabe, Mrs. Tomi Funayama, Miss Yoko Takeda, Mrs. Kiyoko Nishi and Mrs. Chiyoko Kishimoto. Their guides and interpreters were Mrs. Otani and Miss Endo.

(See picture on Page 4.)

BONUS RULES SAME AS '50

Management has just recently announced that the rules of their bonus game remained unchanged. That means that the company will once again ignore forty nine years of devoted service and will insist that workers become slaves for three, if they are to qualify for the \$25 bonus that isn't a bonus. Despite the fact that the "bonus" is not subject to the regulations of the union contract, Local I-S reminded in 1950 in winning some relaxation of its rigid rules.

In addition to winning such exceptions as limited excused lateness and absences, the Union position compelled management to name its plan an "Attendance Incentive Bonus" leaving no doubt in anyone's mind that the extra was for extra work—and was a Christmas bonus.



Local I-S President Sam Kovenetsky and CIO President Philip Murray listen attentively as other leaders pledge the full support of their unions in the drive to organize the unorganized.

Convention Brings Vigor To Problems Facing Labor

CIO has not only avoided all the symptoms of middle age, but has preserved a youthful and vigorous approach to the many issues affecting the daily lives of its millions of members. This was proven many times over in the course of the organization's recently concluded 13th national convention.

While the conclave dealt with a total of fifty one resolutions, covering the range from atomic energy and taxes to Federal Aid to Education and the union label, we can attempt here only a summary of the actions on subjects closest to us.

The Convention sharply reaffirmed its determination to win repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act. The resolution stated, "The fundamental policy which underlies Taft-Hartley is to weaken unions, to block union organization and to hamstring collective bargaining. We cannot compromise our opposition to provisions such as those described above, which have no place in any fair labor relations law." It was agreed by the convention that, "The CIO will continue to seek the repeal of the unfair and unjust Taft-Hartley Act" and "... the enactment of a labor relations act based on the policies of the Wagner Act which protects the rights of workers to join un-

ions and accepts full collective bargaining as the national labor relations policy."

Taxes

The Resolutions Committee reported, in part, that, "The American people are on notice, given in the plain words of the bipartisan Congressional coalition that now shapes our tax policy, that if that coalition continues to have its way, any additional revenue is going to be raised by sales or transaction taxes. This is a bald proposal to shift the money cost of defense from the well-to-do to the backs of the lower income tax payers, already the victims of tax laws that are based, not on ability to pay, but upon percentage tax increases that touch lightly upon high incomes and standards of luxury while cutting lower incomes below the American standard of living and the inadequate Bureau of Labor Statistics family budget."

The convention resolved that, "The CIO alerts its affiliates and local and state councils to the danger and meaning of the drive inspired by business and industry groups to shift taxes from high and middle incomes to sales taxes, not just for the defense emergency, but as permanent tax policy."

"We call upon all CIO affiliates, councils and members to fight any

and all sales or transaction taxes and to enlist the cooperation of all other groups unfairly taxed

(Continued on page 4)

Re-Affirms Pledge To Fully Organize Nation's Millions

The full weight of national CIO and all its affiliates was thrown behind the department store organizing drive when the 13th constitutional convention of CIO declared that, "The CIO dedicates itself anew to the fulfillment of its pledge to organize the millions of unorganized workers still denied the benefit of union organization."

Outstanding leaders of CIO, including Director of Organization and Executive Vice President Allan Haywood, Assistant Director of Organization R. J. Thomas and Director of Organization of the Department Store Union, Local I-S President Sam Kovenetsky, took the convention microphone to win the support of delegates representing every CIO union in the country.

Allan Haywood

Said Vice President Allan Haywood, "I want to call upon you strong unions up and down this country to remember that you can't remain strong unless you make your fellow workers strong in other unions around you. It is important that when these boys (The Dept. Store organizers) come into your territories to organize, that you, too, remember what was done for you in 1935 and '36 and '37 by

(Continued on Page 2)



Addressing the 13th national convention of CIO, President Kovenetsky called for all-out aid in organizing more than a million workers in the department store industry from coast to coast.

BRANCH STORE NEWS



Dave Markowitz

Our Flatbush Shop Stewards have reached a high in job performance for the Union. This is shown by the good behavior of the executives—something which one does not often see elsewhere in the store . . . Store Committee Chairman Phil Hoffstein pointed out that many of the Better Job Questionnaires have not yet been turned in. If you are still holding on to yours, fill it in and turn it in—fast! . . . Frieda Pariser finally back at work looking well and rested . . . Lil Moscovitz, Lil Kaplan and Mae Levy are still out ill. Did anyone pay them a visit? Why not call them and find out if they would like a little company . . . Margie Mazzadri is expecting a little company of her own. Her party, I understand, was a ding dong affair . . . The crowd that went to the Jamaica square dance had a great time. They were "led" by Kenny O'Brien, Tom Ferguson and "Butch" who fell asleep with a girl on his lap . . . Bill Kennedy accepted a temporary position as executive in Toys and was blessed with a baby daughter. Mazel Tov . . . Bill De Ferari is selling auto insurance and studying life insurance—He gets you coming and going . . . Dotty Zimet now a section head in the X-mas ornament department . . . MYSTERY: Who in Flatbush was secretly married???

WHITE PLAINS

I've received the assignment of writing for and about our White Plains members. Lucky for me that I'm a steward and in a position to hear and see the news in the making—necessary, interesting or otherwise . . . REMINDER: all departments, with or without stewards, have been reminded by Administrator Tony Puca that inequalities to be discussed at coming negotiations must be turned in by Dec. 1. If they're not in by then they cannot and will not be taken up . . . It's good to be able to report that our stewards are reporting and taking up grievances—and that the weekly meetings of our administrator and Store Committee with management have been winning quite a few important issues. Remember, it's a standing rule that all problems, no matter how small, be written up by the Steward at the first step . . . Ruth Martens has been dismissed from the hospital, but will require a long rest at home. All the folks here wish you a speedy recovery, Ruth . . . Mary Abbott is back at the grind again . . . Types alike. Carmine Guzzi and Fran Bush—they even have lunch together. So too with Irene Kayser and Frances Petluck. Didn't you all see Henry Malgrande looking so well in his uniform. Lots of luck on your overseas tour—ambassador!

PARKCHESTER



Georgine Staib

Our Store Committee Chairman Lillian Branca, was out ill. We're glad she's back with us in good health—she'll need it for some of the fights ahead . . . This issue of the paper went to press just before our divisional meeting at which we were to elect a replacement for Navin Newman, who resigned from the Executive Board. There was lots of pre-election talk and campaigning—with the names of lots of good candidates being thrown in the hopper . . . Who was the executive who tried to split the two hours we got on election day?? The move was to schedule full timers and a half hour late in the morning and let them go an hour and a half earlier at night. The full-timers affected were in P8 and P12 . . . Catherine Hallihan (P6) was proudly displaying a beautiful CIO medalion she got when she attended a session of the convention at the Hotel Commodore . . . Pat Cross (P4 Sportswear) has taken a leave to await the Stork. Happy landing, Stork . . . Mrs. Fishman (P10 Boys Furnishings) returned from Canada a disappointed woman—she didn't meet any of the famous mounties . . . Our sympathies to Joseph Porco, a new member of our union and Stockman in P8, on the death of his father . . . Response to the Dental Survey sponsored by the Union was great.

JAMAICA

We were all terribly sorry to learn that Chris Murphy's daughter passed away as a result of injuries received in an auto accident. Our deepest sympathy to you, Chris . . . Richard Martino, Packing, George Garabaldi, Stock and Victor Scudieri all heard the call and had no choice but to answer. It was Uncle Sam! All we can say is, Good luck, fellows, and hope to see you back soon . . . Sorry to learn that Florence Schnefel, who has done such a terrific job on the Welfare Board, has resigned from the store . . . June Godfrey, Clerical in Children's Shoes, is the new Jamaica Welfare representative. Give her all the cooperation you can . . . There are still departments out here that are without Shop Stewards. Get in touch with Administrator Pat Favoino just as soon as possible and make arrangements for an early meeting to elect the person to handle your grievances . . . Department meetings are moving along nicely. J4 Suits and Coats, J6, Shoes, Packing and Cashiering, Soda Bar, J7 Accessories are some of the departments that had met by mid-November. Departments waiting to schedule meetings should get in touch with me for arrangements . . . We're going to press before our Divisional Meeting at which we'll be electing two replacements to the Store Committee.



Terry Ciarlo



Pat Favoino

CIO Backs Drive...

(Continued from page 1)

the CIO; and that you render every support to building these unions . . . They need you and you need them."

Underscoring CIO's determination to see this drive through to a complete and successful conclusion was Brother Haywood's closing statement. He said, "Let us not leave this convention taking this as just another subject. The CIO was born to organize. The CIO must never let up until every man and woman eligible for unionization, belongs to our movement . . . remember that every unorganized person is a menace to every other worker. We must bring them into our unions!"

R. J. Thomas

Speaking in his capacity of Chairman of the United Department Workers Union, CIO's Assistant Organization Director R. J. Thomas said, "Some of us sometimes think, without a second thought, that we are a great and mighty organization. We forget how many millions there are in America that organization has not touched as yet."

"I wonder how many of you know that in the department store field there are a minimum of one million unorganized workers . . . I wonder how many of you know the deplorable conditions existing for the employees in many of the large department stores in this country. I wonder how many of you know that in the city of New York the differential in the department store field—and I am using the Local 1-S, Macy wages as the standard—runs from nine to eleven



R. J. Thomas, CIO's Assistant Organization Director and Chairman of the Department Store Workers Union told delegates that the organizing "spirit of '36" will put the current drive over the top.

dollars a week. Macy workers, with their fine CIO union lead the field. But the others are practically all white collar workers, and there is no question inflation has hit them harder than it has hit the industrial workers of America."

"So I am asking that you, in whatever community you come from, give us whatever help you can in organizing this large and important group."

"I, as a single individual, am not going to be able to deliver these people to the CIO. I don't think there is a single individual that could do that. But with the co-operation of our membership in the CIO, wherever they may be—from one end of the country to the other, I am convinced the job can be done."

Sam Kovenetsky

Speaking from the rostrum of labor's national convention for the first time in his rapidly advancing career, President Sam Ko-

venetsky said, "The department store industry is not a penny ante business. It ranks among the top ten money makers in the country and when I hear delegates take the floor at this convention and talk about the shameful conditions and low wages prevailing in the south or west, I think one of the things they must realize is that department store workers rank among the worst of those shameful conditions and among the lowest of the low paid."

"I have the responsibility, along with Brother Thomas, for directing the organizing drive. I have been told that any help that is necessary the CIO people in the various areas of the country are willing and ready to give. We will call on you for help because we must have the aid of CIO to be able to organize the unorganized and to win for CIO the mis-led and disorganized workers in Communist Local 65."

Dance Tics Now On Sale

With streamlined efficiency the Activities Committee of Local 1-S headed by Tony Puca, completed distribution of tickets for the Welfare Board February 2nd dance.

Every Shop Steward has been allocated enough tickets for each member of his department and will be required to submit a check list showing that every person was contacted.

The dance, to be held at the Park Avenue Armory, 34th Street and Park Avenue, will feature the best in continuous music and outstanding entertainment. In addition to the tickets now on sale at \$1.50, the Committee has set aside a bloc of tickets to be distributed to Servicemen's organizations. This will help provide an evening of fun for men of the armed forces stationed or on leave in the city.

All proceeds of the dance are for the benefit of the Local 1-S Welfare Fund which is responsible for the sick and needy of the Union.

Said Welfare Board Chairman Charles Rucker, "the hundreds of letters to the Welfare Board from grateful members of our union prove that we are doing a good and necessary job. If every Union member buys a pair of dance tickets we can all be sure that the Board will be able to continue and expand this vital service."

**FREE
LEGAL AID CLINIC**
Local 1-S Attorney
Robert Silagi
at the Union Office
Every Wednesday
5 to 7 PM

X-MAS SPENDING-SAVING PLAN CREDIT UNION OFFERS MEMBERS

The Local 1-S Federal Credit Union is the practical place to turn for help with your Christmas budget problems.

Operating under the supervision of the United States government, the Credit Union has already loaned close to \$80,000 to 892 member borrowers. Loans of up to \$100 may be made without co-signers. Larger loans can be arranged, either with Credit Union shares as collateral or with the aid of a co-signer.

Since its organization a little more than a year ago, the Credit Union has grown to include 1147 members who have deposited more than \$40,000. Dividends, or interest, on these shares will be declared within the next few weeks. It is expected that the size of the dividends will be substantially higher than the rates paid by commercial banks.

Membership in the Credit Union is limited to members of Local 1-S and members of their family living under the same roof. To open an account, a union member need only pay an opening fee of 25 cents and a 25 cent down payment on a five dollar share. Each five dollars on deposit represents a share. Dividends are paid on the basis of the number of whole shares a member holds.

Any member of the Credit Union may borrow. Interest charges are

moderate at 1% per month on the unpaid balance of the loan, and the borrower is allowed wide latitude in deciding the rate at which the loan is to be repaid. Membership and loan application forms are available at the Local 1-S office.

Loan requests require up to one week for processing. Applicants are therefore urged to plan far enough ahead to avoid unnecessary delays in their personal shopping schedule.

Said Treasurer Jack Schultz, "we of the Local 1-S Federal Credit Union are well aware that planned saving is difficult in these days of rising prices. Experience, however has taught hundreds of Credit Union members that even a small deposit each week begins to add up to a substantial savings account. We encourage people to borrow rather than withdraw savings, because we know that such an obligation enables people to pay back regularly and to even continue their savings while they are paying off a loan. The result is that members have both the cash they need for immediate purchases and the bank balance they need for a higher degree of security."

The Credit Union is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. Join Today.

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Vice Pres.:

James Harte

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LOCAL 1-S NEWS

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LOCAL 1-S, UNITED DEPARTMENT STORE WORKERS OF AMERICA, C. I. O.
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A Strange Voice

THE STRUGGLES AND SUCCESSES of the organized labor movement over the last fifteen years have had a profound effect on all sections of our country, including the higher governmental offices. This has been amply proved by the continued existence of what was once upon a time described as "socialist" legislation, such as Social Security and unemployment insurance.

IT STILL COMES AS SOMETHING of a surprise, however, when the United States Secretary of Labor addresses the national convention of so great a labor body as CIO and stresses the need for a continuing effort to organize the unorganized.

IN THE COURSE OF HIS SPEECH Mr. Tobin called attention to the fact that 20 million workers, unorganized in the main, have lost upward of three billion dollars in purchasing power because wages did not keep up with prices. "And, of course," he said, "a great many of the 20 million are in the white collar field that is still more than 85 per cent non-union."

MR. TOBIN WAS QUITE CORRECT when he pointed to the ominous significance of this growing lag between need and purchasing power. He said, "It means that a worker can buy less at the store and save less at the bank. When a worker fails to keep pace with the cost of living, it is the same as though the boss had cut his pay check."

STRANGE WORDS, INDEED, FROM an influential government leader. But words to be heeded. Labor has consistently pointed to the dangers of inflation. Labor has earnestly sought a system of price controls that would preserve the wage earner's ability to buy the things he needs. Labor, organized under the banner of CIO, has decided to ignore the wage freeze and fight for the raises that will narrow the widening gap. We can only hope that Mr. Tobin is ready to help us.

Word and Deed

IF PROTEST AND INDIGNATION MOUNTED as fast as the cost of living it is quite probable that something would happen to provide effective controls on prices. Sad to say, however, the people still remain silent—even while their standard of living is on the skids.

IN MID-NOVEMBER, THE REGIONAL director of the United States' Labor Department's bureau of labor statistics announced that food prices were 8.4 per cent higher than a year ago and 11.8 per cent above what they were before the Korean war. He said that in mid-October food prices had established a new high record and pointed out that the food dollar was worth only 44 cents in terms of 1935-'39 prices.

LEADERS OF CIO UNIONS FROM ALL sections of the United States gave their enthusiastic support to President Murray's rejection of the Wage Stabilization Board's "formula" for fixing wages while allowing prices and profits to continue their climb. Said President Murray, "... the CIO doesn't like this system of wage regulation; the CIO is in perfect disagreement with our Federal agencies about price stabilization; the CIO believes, and honestly believes ... that if wages are going to be controlled, prices and profits should be controlled."

NOTICE HAS BEEN SERVED THAT CIO will lead the fight for real wage increases designed to meet and overcome the losses we have suffered due to rising costs. We of Local 1-S will step onto the stage and into the spotlight when our negotiations begin in January. But, in addition to giving full support to our Union's bargaining effort, we have a grave responsibility on the political front.

WE MUST BEGIN TO MAKE MORE effective use of our individual and collective strength. We must realize, once and for all, that we are fighting for economic survival. We must write to our lawmakers in Washington and make them aware of the fact that if they don't consider us we will not vote for them! 1952 is a big political year, and the gentlemen will be looking for our votes. Let's tell them that we have a price—that we want laws that will help protect us—and what if they cooperate with us we will return the favor. Let's make our political influence felt—starting now!

LETTERS to the EDITOR

To the Editor:

I want to thank all responsible for sending me their kind get well wishes and the lovely box of chocolate wafers during my recent convalescence.

Sincerely,
Your friend and co-worker,
K. Pelzmann 81-942

To the Editor:

Through you I wish to thank the Welfare Board of Local 1-S for the lovely card and gift I received during my recent illness. I also want to tell you how much I appreciated being a member of a Union that has a heart for its members. Having had an operation years ago when I was not covered by hospitalization or surgery benefits, I can tell you from first hand experience what it means financially to know that the greater part of the surgeon's fee and all my hospital bills were taken care of. Not having the mental anguish of wondering how you are going to meet these obligations is a great load off one's mind and certainly aids in one's speedy recovery.

I am leaving today for a trip to Texas to visit my daughter and also to help with my recuperation, but I shall also be looking forward to my return to work and the companionship of my fellow-workers.

Sincerely,
Marion A. Smith,
913 Dept.

To the Editor:

I wish to thank the Union kindly, my husband and I, for being so thoughtful sending such a lovely and colorful gift package to me.

I really don't know how to express my appreciation for this gift received from the Local 1-S Welfare Board. My co-workers and you all have been very nice to me during my illness. It makes one feel proud to work with such kind and thoughtful people.

May I again thank you from the bottom of my heart. God bless you all.

I remain, as always,
Mrs. Paula De Somma

To the Editor:

I certainly agree with our President, Sam Kovenetsky, on the unhealthy attitude that exists among our members when people refuse to discuss the President's report concerning such vital issues as wages and hours.

What is happening to our membership? I hear them gripe all day long about the rising taxes, cost of food, fear of the landlord knocking at their doors for a rent increase etc., etc.

Surely this concerns all of us who work for a living, and surely these same people would like a way to express themselves. Perhaps the reason for this apathy in the store is the fact that the members are not participating enough in the life of their Union and do not feel themselves a part of the Union's efforts to better our conditions.

I would like to suggest a reader's page, where the Macy workers would have an opportunity to express themselves and write about their problems, gripe out loud and say what they think about the issues concerning us today.

It's wonderful to read how much the people appreciate the work of the Welfare Board, but this is not

CONGRESSMAN DRIPP

BY YOMEN



"Let's pass a law making it illegal for employers to talk to union negotiators."

ADDRESS UNKNOWN

Important Union mail addressed to the following members has been returned by the Post Office for a better address. If your name appears below, please phone or visit the Union office at once. If any of these people work near you, please call their attention to this matter:

Anderson, Rufus
Aguada, Ethleen
Adams, Mildred
Arnott, Regina
Ahlers, Karl
Anderson, Helen
Alleyne, Robert
Armstrong, A.
Apffel, Evelyn
Blumensen, Howard
Barrett, Rex
Bowes, Dorothy
Breetveld, Arie
Brown, Carmela
Buler, Vitoria
Bock, Doris
Boyd, Imogene
Behrman, Janis
Baxter, Dorothy
Bruni, Teresa
Burstein, Alex
Balter, Annabel

Barvo, Marie
Besgaier, Diana
Butcher, Marilyn
Bechhold, Martha
Begleiter, Bernice
Bennett, Amy
Bayne, Ethel
Boschino, Ida
Bussiere, Alice
Bly, Carole
Bagone, Joseph
Barron, Anne
Bausquette, Florence
Becker, Thelma
Bradley, George
Brown, Jesse Jr.
Caro, Theresa
Carter, Veronica
Carvello, Michele
Castaldo, Emma
Chambers, George
Chopek, Anna
Costello, Mary
Cronin, Joseph J.
Cupo, Margaret
Deutsch, Clara
Dietrichson, I.
Esposito, Palma
Farrington, Samuel
Feingold, Leo
Fernandez, D.
Galindez, Julia
Gellis, Audrey
Gellrich, Hedwig
Genove, Rose
Giovannetti, Rose T.
Gillespie, John J.
Helmig, Ann
Higginbotham, Betty
Hollis, Vincent W.
Holscher, Michelina
Keihm, Margaret
Loock, Irwin
Losey, Ruth
McGovern, Lena
McKay, Robert
Marrant, Elise
Matos, Nelson
Meyer, Estelle
Minucci, Laura
Murph, Alex (Mrs.)
Murray, Marion
Quitoni, Leo
Pryce, I. Marie
Reina, Dolores
Ryan, Ernest
Savoy, William
Shlian, Barbara
Sigall, Samuel
Simpkins, Lillian
Smith, Zada
Sussman, Betty
Talt, Anita
Tammone, Rosanna
Taylor, Jane

enough for a Union newspaper representing 8500 people.

Cost of living, speed up, lay-offs, salary cuts and transfers—these are things that affect every one of us.

Many members have good ideas about how we can help our leadership fight for the demands they have proposed. We can all benefit from those ideas, so let's hear them here.

Pauline Kotimsky,
137 Dept.

To the Editor:

I am very much in favor of a special card for cash discount shopping for employees.

Sincerely yours,
Eva Treu, P4

To the Editor:

Received both the Welfare Board's kind card and the very lovely gift box of assorted jellies.

They will be most enjoyed with my morning toast, when one does not have to rush out to R.H.

Wish to thank the Welfare Board for their thoughtfulness and kindness to me.

Fraternally yours,
Adele Black, 114-07

DEC

1951

Convention . . .

(Continued from page 1)

... We protest and denounce the unfair and unwise double standards written into 1951 tax law. We call upon the Congress to re-examine and re-design the entire tax structure and enact a new tax law that will be truly progressive, placing the incidence and the burden of taxation upon those able to pay in proportion to their ability to pay."

Wage Stabilization

In discussion on Wage Stabilization and Equality of Sacrifice, the convention agreed that, "... To date the mobilization program is shot through with inequity and injustice. Prices have jumped to new peak levels. Price controls, weak from the start, were deliberately weakened further by the last Congress. Loopholes and exemptions free thousands of businesses from all controls. Landlords not exempted from controls have been given the right to raise rents 20 per cent. Price rollbacks have been stopped. Retailers' and wholesalers' margins have been guaranteed; and manufacturers have been told they may pass cost increases on to the consumer. Even the recent increases in excise taxes on various commodities may be passed on to consumers in pyramid fashion. Congress has proven itself subservient to the meat, cotton, landlord and retail lobbies, and the NAM and United States Chamber of Commerce. By arraying the propertied interests against the people's welfare, such a coalition endangers democracy itself."

The convention resolved that, "... we shall never submit to discriminatory wage freezes or unfair policies of any other kind which will threaten the standard of living and the hard-won collective bargaining advances of free American labor or will undermine the fundamental rights of workers to organize, to bargain collectively and to take concerted action for their mutual aid and protection. We stand four-square in our determination to protect and advance the American standard of living and the security of the American worker and American unions."

Civil Rights

Calling for the enactment of a federal anti-lynching bill, the outlawing of poll taxes, the enactment of safeguards against segregation in federal appropriations for state aid, a modernized and strengthened Civil Rights law and the issuance, at once, by President Truman of an Executive Order establishing a Fair Employment Practices Commission, the Convention noted that:

"The fear and lack of confidence of prejudiced men has given rise to an atmosphere of hysteria that seeks to brand as subversive the determination of the majority of American citizens to develop and extend real democracy."

Civil Liberties

The convention agreed that, "No more serious problem faces the American people today than how to combat Communism ... without endangering the basic freedoms upon which our great demo-

cratic nation was founded. The future welfare and happiness of organized labor, as well as all other segments of our people, depend upon the successful resolution of this fundamental issue."

Pointing to the fact that "the twin brothers of 'fear' and 'smear' run rampant in the land, the convention assailed "the pernicious activities of Senator McCarthy," charged that the "government loyalty program operates to force dull and terrified conformity upon federal employees" and said:

"The Supreme Court's decision upholding the conviction of the Communist leaders was a grave blow to America's precious heritage of freedom of speech. We detest the men who were convicted under the Smith Act. . . but their conviction and imprisonment, not for conspiring or attempting to overthrow the government by violence, but solely for conspiring to 'teach and advocate' the 'propriety' of such overthrow, is a threat to the free speech of all men. We urge the vigorous prosecution of acts of espionage and sabotage, but we insist that the prosecution of men for the advocacy of ideas, however repulsive, does not benefit the cause of freedom."

CIO Legislative Highlights

The CIO Convention went on record in support of:

Repeal of Taft-Hartley Act and enactment of an equitable labor relations law based on the principles of the Wagner Act.

A minimum wage of at least \$1.25 an hour.

Passage of an FEPC bill.

Passage of legislation outlawing poll taxes and other undemocratic restrictions on the right to vote.

Enactment of a federal anti-lynching bill.

Passage of measures to bar segregation in inter-state travel.

Reform of the procedures of Congressional Committees to insure fair treatment of witnesses and persons and organizations who are made the subject of testimony before such committees.

Adoption of a progressive tax program that equitably levies the burden of taxes on the basis of ability to pay, closes tax loopholes and includes an effective excess profits tax. We vigorously oppose any type of sales tax.

Revision of the Rent Control Act by Congress . . . to provide for stabilization of rents throughout the United States as long as the Defense Mobilization Program continues and the housing shortage prevents normal bargaining between landlord and tenant . . .

Enactment of the National Health Program, including national health insurance and expanded federal aid to medical research, education, cooperatives and hospital construction.

Repeal or drastic amendment of the Subversive Activities Control Act to do away with unworkable "registration," dangerous listing of defense facilities, discrimination against aliens and elimination of other evils.

Repeal of the Wherry Amendment to Senate Rule XXII which seeks to perpetuate minority control by filibuster.

Providing for the broadcasting and televising of Congressional debates.

PERSONALS

WANTED—1½ room apartment in Yorkville or West Bronx. Will pay up to \$45. Need is URGENT. Phone Samberg, Extension 654.

FOR RENT—Attractive furnished room, 5 minutes to Tremont Station. Concourse 6 Ave. Express. Phone CY 9-1069, evenings, Sat. or Sun.

MEDICAL PLAN — for the name and address of the doctor nearest you CALL the Union Office — LA 4-9714 or Associated Physicians Medical Group — BU 8-4296 (Night or Day). Complete schedule of fees available upon request.

BLOOD BANK — If you need blood from the Blood Bank CALL Elizabeth Hammond at the Union Office — LA 4-9714.

Grievance Roundup: Big Back Pay; Other Gains, Mark Last Two Weeks

Joel Hollander of the Packing Department had been at a Divisional Meeting. When he got home he kept hearing chairman James Butler's words about the contractual rights of Union members going into the armed forces.

The next morning he spoke to Shop Steward Felix Douse. Together they went, first to Jim Butler and then to Administrator Bob McLean.

The big question was, How much had Joel suffered as a result of being treated like a new employee upon his return from a year in the service? Full investigation finally showed that he had lost seventeen days of vacation time, he had lost time from work as a result of being temporarily laid off out of seniority and he had lost money that should have been his through automatic wage increases.

Final calculations showed that the company owed him a grand total of \$882.65 plus two and a half weeks off. Joel has collected the cash and is now planning a holiday vacation. Said Administrator Bob McLean, "Attending a meeting and having a strong Union really paid off for this member. You can protect your rights by at-

tending your meetings and keeping your union strong."

Shop Steward Cecil Franklin, of the Elevator Department, brought home the bacon when he, with the help of Chief Steward Clarence Lanman, successfully processed a grievance demanding sponsoring pay in their department.

Repeated attempts to win this gain failed in the past, but management was finally convinced that there was more to the job than stopping and starting a car. Now, sponsors will be paid in recognition of the fact that they must also teach the fine art of handling customers in some of the busiest elevators in the world.

The same elevator men ask that their co-workers aim their fire at management's unwillingness to use more cars rather than at them when they get left behind on the floors.

They point out that management's decisions are responsible for the amount of service they are able to give, and ask that management, not they, bear the brunt of your protests.

Back in October we were able to report that as a result of a successfully prosecuted grievance, Greta Norton of 88 Department won a pay adjustment totalling more than \$630.

Now, from the same department comes word that Leo Rosen, aided by Shop Steward Mary Boyd, has protested and won a similar grievance.

It all goes back to March of 1948, when 88 Department was made a single unit selling shoes

of all prices. Leo was one of those clerks who had not been selling Gro-shoes, which paid \$2.50 more per week than the other shoe sections. When he started selling the higher rated merchandise he asked about an increase and was told that there was to be none.

It wasn't until October, 1951, when the Local I-S NEWS turned the spotlight on the Norton grievance victory, that Leo realized that he had been hoodwinked, deliberately or otherwise.

The grievance, written by Steward Boyd, said, "This clerk feels he is entitled to this increase (\$2.50 a week) as he is the only one in the department who never received same. This increase to date back to March 17, 1948."

The company's notation on the grievance form says simply, "Referred to Miss Parker, Employment office, for checkup. Discrepancies corrected."

The "discrepancies" add up to a back pay check totalling more than \$225, which should help make this a very merry Christmas for Leo, with best wishes from his Steward and his union.

HEALTH PLAN NOTE

If you plan to take a leave of absence for more than 30 days or if you leave the store and wish to continue your Health Plan coverage on a direct payment basis YOU MUST see the Local I-S Health Plan Consultant at the Union office within 30 days from the end of the month in which you leave the store. Protect yourself — protect your family — protect your benefits. Be sure to come to the Union office on time!

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